THE LAMPSHADE

The College Years

by

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Play # 9 : Goosebumps - The College Years

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INT. JOHNNY & B'S DORMROOM - RAINY NIGHT

Lights up on the dormroom.

A little messy from some possibly partying.

Sounds of a storm outside.

The dormroom is empty except for B who sits facing the audience, possibly smoking on a pipe.

В

I would like... If I may... to welcome to a very special evening... Of terror! The human mind is built with a terrible capacity for craziness witness everyday athletes like Tonya Harding or OJ. But even the most seemingly pleasant and docile of creatures can hold in them dark secrets. Even puppies!

Gwen enters, wearing a devil costume, unseen to B, she watches confused.

B (CONT'D)

Tonight, you will all be shown the insanity of a common person pushed to the limit, on tonight's B-Fred Hitch-B Presents!

GWEN

B, who're you talking to?

В

No one.

B winks to the audience.

GWEN

Are you wasted?

В

Just a little tipsy. Why you wanna punish me, you know give me hell?

GWEN

B, let me remind you, I'm your RA, I can give you hell.

R

In that case I'm not drunk at all.

GWEN

Good, we need your help.

В

Why?

GWEN

Johnny's going crazy, his friend...

Gwen tries to remember the name.

P

Tiff, Tiffany.

GWEN

Yeah, she was supposed to come in from his hometown a little while ago, but she's late and with the storm, he's worried.

B

Yeah, he always gets pretty crazy during thunderstorms.

GWEN

Mare's trying to calm him down, but with not much luck, and Johnny's ready to go out in to the storm looking for Tiff.

В

So where is he now?

Johnny suddenly comes charging in dressed like Sherlock Holmes.

Mare follows but is having trouble keeping up, due to the fact she is wearing heels along with her elaborate and colorful Barbie costume and she's not dealing with the heels too well.

JOHNNY

We've got to find Tiff.

MARE

Johnny, calm down, or slow down, I can't keep up in these heels.

GWEN

Johnny, where are you going?

JOHNNY

I gotta go find Tiff.

GWEN

You can't look at you, you're a mess from the storm.

JOHNNY

I am not.

There's a crash of thunder!!!!

Johnny shrieks and jumps into Gwen's arms.

GWEN

You're not, huh?

JOHNNY

Okay, maybe a little, but if you were never used to storms you'd get a little freaked out too. Everybody I know gets a little weirded by them.

GWEN

And that's why you can't go out there.

JOHNNY

Who's gonna stop me?

В

I am.

MARE

This won't end well.

GWEN

(sarcastically)

Oh great.

B produces several plastic swords as he talks.

В

If you want to go out there, you'll have to go through me. I challenge you to a duel.

JOHNNY

Just give me the umbrella, so I can get out there.

В

You'll have to get past me.

JOHNNY

I warn you, Sherlock Holmes is an expert fencer.

В

So is... whatever Ghostbuster I am... probably.

JOHNNY

Give me the sword then.

B gives Johnny a sword. Johnny immediately attacks B, but B manages to defend.

Johnny is slowly backing toward the door keeping B and Gwen on point of his sword.

There's a knock at the door.

Johnny pulls the door open to find, The New Guy, dressed like whatever he wants, Johnny grabs the New Guy and holds his sword to the New Guy's throat.

NEW GUY

(before getting grabbed)

Trick or ...

(after getting grabbed)

Is this a bad time?

JOHNNY

(to B and Gwen)

Back off you two, or this one's done for.

В

Holmes would never kill.

JOHNNY

He'd do whatever it takes to solve his case.

Е

You're disgracing his memory.

JOHNNY

I'm honoring it.

В

Disgracing!

JOHNNY

Honoring!

NEW GUY

You guys are obviously in the middle of something, so can I just go?

JOHNNY

That's it he dies!

В

Wait! I'm putting my sword down.

GWEN

Guys! Can we please remember that Johnny has just got a plastic sword.

В

Oh yeah. Get him!

B and Gwen make a charge for Johnny. Johnny throws the New Guy to them, then Johnny quickly runs out the door.

GWEN

I'll go after him.

Gwen runs out the door.

В

(grabs another umbrella)
I'll try to cut him off at the front door.

B climbs out window.

MARE

(to New Guy)

Are you okay?

NEW GUY

That was weird.

MARE

It's actually a pretty normal Thursday around here.

NEW GUY

I'll keep that in mind... Oh yeah, hi, I'm...

MARE

(cutting him off)
The New Guy, right?

NEW GUY

Well, kind of, I moved in like month ago, so I'm not that...

В

(climbing in window)
Johnny never came out the front.
Gwen is asking around the dorm, I
wanted to se if Johnny came to his
senses and came back.

MARE

Nah, he's still gone.

P

This guy okay?

MARE

Oh yeah, B this is the New Guy.

NEW GUY

Hey, I'm...

В

(cutting him off)
I've heard about you. You're
virgin, right?

Mare and New Guy look at B questioningly.

B (CONT'D)

Gwen keeps tabs on these kind of things.

NEW GUY

Well, yeah, I am.

В

I didn't know there were any in the wild anymore.

MARE

Can we change the ...

В

That's crazy.

MARE

Whatever, I'm gonna go help look for Johnny.

Mare exits out door.

R

I gotta say, you look normal, like you'd actually be able to get girls.

NEW GUY

Hey, I can get girls.

В

Okay... virgin.

NEW GUY

I'll show you.

В

How?

NEW GUY

That guy, Johnny, his friend, Tiff, is coming. We'll see who can seduce her.

B

You don't stand a chance.

NEW GUY

We'll see.

В

You're on!

Mare reenters luring Johnny behind her. She is taking off various pieces of her overly elaborate costume, she has taken off her shoes, her shawl, and is now pulling of her gloves.

Johnny is following like an overly typical horny guy.

MARE

Can you guys grab him. I'm running out of things to comfortably take off.

В

Then why should we grab him?

MARE

Fine, New Guy, will you grab him and sit him on the bed?

NEW GUY

Got him.

New Guy grabs Johnny and sits him on the bed.

В

No fun.

MARE

B, do it.

B hits the C.D. player.

Music starts "Sugar, Sugar"

Mare does a short little interpretive dance. A huge smile grows on Johnny's face, and he goes into a trance happily humming along.

Mare stops dancing and she and B share sigh of relief. New Guy looks completely lost.

NEW GUY

What'd you do?

MARE

I don't know. I'm not sure why that works.

B

Me neither.

MARE

It has something to do with the storm, though, Johnny gets really strange during storms, he's not used to them where he's from. Which brings us back to Tiff, we've gotta go find her, she's probably going crazy too.

В

I'll go, you stay and watch Johnny.

NEW GUY

I'll help with Johnny, in case he goes crazy again.

MARE

Thanks.

В

I'm out. Wait, did you find...
 (pulls out cell phone)

Gwen!

B (CONT'D)

Well, tell the other person to calm down so we can talk... Gwen, you're yelling at me and that's not polite... I can't hear you, let me turn down the music.

MARE

No!

B turns off the music.

Johnny springs to life and tries to make a run for the door.

Mare and the New Guy try to hold Johnny back.

JOHNNY

I have to help Tiff!

MARE

Johnny, calm down!

В

Can you guys be quiet, I'm on the phone!

NEW GUY

Sorry.

New Guy puts his hand over Johnny's mouth, and the three of them continue to wrestle around as B talks on the phone.

В

Gwen, I can't understand you. Calm down... Well, you're not the only being attacked, I'm being attacked by you... Gwen, I've never heard you talk so dirty, well except when we... Stop yelling, I'll hang up, I'm serious...

(hangs up)

She was all hysterical, I couldn't understand her.

JOHNNY

Then we've got to help her too.

В

Why? You think Gwen's in trouble?

JOHNNY

Yes, and I've got to help Tiff too.

Johnny pushes off Mare and New Guy and runs for door.

B

No you don't.

Thunder crash!!!!

Door opens.

Tiff enters dressed in goth, but she's soaked from the storm so her eye-make-up and everything is all runny.

TIFF

Does Johnny live here?

JOHNNY

Tiff! Thank god, how are you?

TIFF

Wet.

В

(laughs - everyone looks
 at him)

What? I'm an under-sexed guy.

Everyone looks at B shaking their heads.

Another crash of thunder!!!!

Johnny and Tiff jump into each other's arms and tumble forward over the couch.

TIFF

The storm's scary.

JOHNNY

Not that sc...

(another crash - Johnny

jumps and shrieks)

It's a little scary. Tiff, you look freezing, what can we do to warm you up?

TIFF

Do you have any wine or anything?

JOHNNY

Sure we do? B, can you get her some?

В

(Jumps to get it)

Sure.

NEW GUY

I'll help.

MARE

(who has been somewhat jealous at how huggy Johnny and Tiff have been - under her breath)

Alcoholic.

JOHNNY

What, Mare?

MARE

Nothing.

TIFF

You're Mare?

MARE

Yeah.

TIFF

I've heard so much about you. Will you have some wine with me?

MARE

I guess.

Tiff takes her glass of wine from B and New Guy who've been fighting to pour the wine. Tiff takes another glass and pours more wine.

Suddenly Tiff coughs suspiciously and secretly drops something in Mare's glass. She then gives Mare the drink.

TTFF

Here's to friends!

MARE

Friends.

(they both drink) That tastes funny. I think the

wine might be going bad.

(beat)

Anyway, now that the Tiff thing is solved. We have to find and possibly help Gwen.

TTFF

She's in trouble? Your RA?

How'd you know?

Johnny must've told me.

JOHNNY

No, I did...

TIFF

(cutting him off)

Yup, sure must've. Johnny, you should go look for her.

MARE

Good idea, me and Johnny will go.

Mare tries to pull Johnny, but he doesn't notice.

JOHNNY

(to Tiff)

Are you sure?

MARE

She's sure.

Johnny still doesn't notice that Mare's pissed.

TIFF

It's what Detective Holmes would do.

JOHNNY

He'd also stay and make sure you're okay.

During this, Mare watching all this adjusts her boobs and flips her hair.

TIFF

I'll be fine with your roommate.

В

Yeah, I'll handle her.

MARE

(turning Johnny's head and acting cute)

We should go Johnny.

JOHNNY

(excited by Mare's
 cuteness)

Okav.

(they start to exit)

Mare, you think she'll be oh ...

MARE

(exasperatedly)

She'll be fine.

Johnny and Mare exit.

NEW GUY

I'll stay and help her too.

Tiff sits on the couch while the two guys are off to either side.

В

We don't need your help New Guy, you can take off.

NEW GUY

I think you need my help.

В

I said, take off.

NEW GUY

I said, no.

В

Leave.

NEW GUY

No.

The two start to wrestle and fight. Finally Tiff clears her throat loudly.

TIFF

Guys is there a problem?

В

No. How're you?

(pushes away New Guy)

Can I get you anything?

TIFF

Well... I

В

A towel!

B grabs the towel and wraps in around Tiff's head and starts drying her hair.

NEW GUY

A blanket!

New Guy grabs a blanket and wraps Tiff with it.

В

Put your feet up!

B props Tiff's feet on the trunk.

NEW GUY

Here's a pillow!

В

How bout more wine?

B grabs the bottle and Tiff's glass, and starts to fill it for her.

TIFF

Thank you. What a gentleman. A sexy gentleman.

NEW GUY

Wait, a beautiful lady should never drink alone.

New Guy grabs another glass and pours himself some wine. He and Tiff wrap arms and drink together with some difficulty.

B looks outraged.

TIFF

(after the drink)

Oooh, that gave me the chills.

В

Then we should get you out of those clothes.

(Tiff and New Guy look at

him)

Because you're wet.

(another look)

From the rain.

TIFF

My bag's out in the car.

В

That's a shame, why don't you go get it, New Guy?

NEW GUY

Why don't you?

В

It's my room.

NEW GUY

So she's your guest, you should go and leave us alone.

В

I'm not leaving you alone.

NEW GUY

I'm not leaving either.

В

Oh yes you are!

NEW GUY

No, I'm not.

They grab each other again and put each other in headlocks. Tiff clears her throat loudly again.

B & NEW GUY

Sorry.

TIFF

It's okay, if neither of you want to go, so I can be dry.

В

Alright, I'll go.

B starts to leave. New Guy silently celebrates. B stops.

B (CONT'D)

Wait! Just wear this till the rain stops.

B gives her his bathrobe and pajama pants.

TIFF

You are naughty.

В

Sorry.

TIFF

No, I like it.

Tiff takes the robe and pants and goes into closet.

B and New Guy try to each peek into the closet. They each try to push the other out of the way and eventually once again start to wrestle around.

B grabs the wine bottle and is about to hit New Guy when Tiff reenters.

В

More wine?

TIFF

Actually, I'm still a little cold. Do you have any hot chocolate?

NEW GUY

I do!

(pause - dejectedly)
But it's in my room.

TIFF

Please...

NEW GUY

I'd have to leave you.

TTFF

I'd be really grateful.

Tiff gives New Guy a kiss on the cheek.

NEW GUY

I'll get it.

The New Guy exits.

TIFF

I'll be waiting.
(turns to B)

Alone at last.

R

You wanted to be alone with me? Why? I mean, of course you'd want to... but why do you want to?

TIFF

Well, check out that physique... or you've got that smile... there's your hair... no, but you're sense of style... I don't know, there's just something I can't put my finger on. But I'd like to try to put my finger on it.

R

That's good enough for me.

B leans in for the kiss.

Tiff can't do it, she looks disgusted.

This is right. I want it to be special.

В

Sex? How do you make it special?

TFF

We could do it in the trunk.

Ε

The trunk?

(pause - excited)

Okay.

(pause)

Wait, my pack's too big. It might not fit.

TTTT

(getting excited)

Really?

В

What? Oh, I mean my <u>proton</u> pack. I just wish my other back was big. (beat)

Forget I said that last part.

TIFF

B, we'll be naked. So give me your proton pack and jump in.

B hands Tiff the proton pack then climbs in.

В

Alright, climb on in.

TIFF

Sure, but first.

Tiff hits B with the proton pack.

B falls into the trunk and Tiff closes the trunk on him. She then dusts her hands off or whatever.

TIFF (CONT'D)

I'm a genius.

Mare and Johnny reenter.

Mare is acting increasingly drunk.

MARE

We couldn't find Gwen, and we looked everywhere. Well, not everywhere, but lots, Lots of places.

JOHNNY

Are you still okay?

MARE

Her hair's crazy.

(Johnny and Tiff look at

her)

That wine's really hitting me.

JOHNNY

Where's B?

TIFF

He left.

MARE

Is that his proton pack?

TIFF

Yeah, he left it.

JOHNNY

Where'd he go?

TIFF

Buddhist camp.

MARE

He left for Buddhist camp?

TIFF

Yeah, with that New Guy.

NEW GUY

(entering with hot cocoa, and spilling it on himself little by little)

I've got the hot chocolate. Ow!

MARE

Here's New Guy. Where's B, Tiffany?

TIFF

I don't know.

MARE

(sarcastically) Quite the mystery.

JOHNNY

Yes it is.

MARE

Johnny, I was joking, it's obvious that...

JOHNNY

You're right, it's obviously a case for Sherlock Holmes.

MARE

Johnny, it's clear that ...

JOHNNY

But is it clear?

MARE

Yes! Tiff...

JOHNNY

Ah yes, Tiff do you think it's clear?

TIFF

No, I have no idea what's going on?

JOHNNY

New Guy, do you know what's happening?

NEW GUY

I haven't known since I came in today.

MARE

Oh come on, B disappears and she's left holding his proton pack, and come to think of it Gwen disappeared just before she showed up. What's going on here?

JOHNNY

I don't see the connection.

NEW GUY

You know, this all sort of makes sense...

(suddenly, pointing away)

What's that?!

Mare and Johnny turn.

Tiff throws hot cocoa on New Guy. New Guy screams.

TIFF (CONT'D)

I thought I saw Snuffaluggagus.

MARE

What happened to him?

NEW GUY

She hit...

TIFF

(pointing away again)

Oh my god, the Brooklyn Dodgers!

Johnny and Mare turn.

Tiff hits New Guy and knocks him out the window and tosses proton pack after him.

MARE

What happened to the New Guy?

TIFF

What do you mean?

Tiff feigns surprise at not finding New Guy next to her.

TIFF (CONT'D)

He disappeared.

JOHNNY

It's quite the mystery.

MARE

Johnny, do you seriously not see what's going on?

JOHNNY

I don't think any of us can see what's going on.

MARE

I'm so gonna die.

Johnny, why don't you go look for clues to Gwen, B, and New Guy's disappearances. Mare and I will stay here in case they show back up.

MARE

Johnny, don't leave me alone with her.

JOHNNY

Don't worry you two can take care of each other.

MARE

That's what I'm afraid of, that she'll take care of me.

JOHNNY

Listen to yourself, you sound really drunk. I've gotta go look for clues.

Johnny exits.

MARE

I'm not drunk... Yes, I am... but I just had that wine... With YOU!

TIFF

Let's just say it was more of a mixed drink.

MARE

Oooh, I like mixed drinks, especially when they have umbrellas.

TIFF

Mare! I don't care.

MARE

Sorry... I hate you... Mood swings are funny... But you're not funny! Why're you doing this?

TIFF

Because, I'm not letting you all take my best friend. I'm getting you all out of the way, then things will be like the were with me and Johnny.

MARE

Nice plan, but I'm gonna stop....

Mare passes out on couch.

TIFF

Can't hold her roofies. Now to get rid of her and then it will just be me and Johnny again.

Tiff starts to drag Mare toward the closet.

Suddenly door opens and a tied up Gwen comes hopping in. She spits out her gag.

GWEN

Put her down.

Tiff drops Mare. Mare wakes up from this.

MARE

Ow! What's going on? I say that a lot. Gwen! Its you! What happened? You and B aren't back together again are you?

GWEN

Mare, will you just untie me?

MARE

Right.

Mare starts to untie Gwen.

GWEN

And let's get her.

TIFF

How're you gonna do that, when I can... run!

Tiff runs for the window, but New Guy pops up rubbing his head.

NEW GUY

Okay, that hurt. This is just a typical Thursday around here?

GWEN

Well, yeah.

MARE

Pretty much.

New Guy climbs in the window and starts to close in on Tiff. Gwen closes in from other side. Mare stands behind the couch.

Tiff is backed up to the chest, she sits on the chest and it starts to shake. Tiff jumps off the chest onto the couch.

Gwen opens the chest and lets out B. The four circle Tiff on the couch.

Music rises, "Thriller"

The four perform part of the dance around the couch.

Tiff finally jumps off the couch and bolts for the closet.

Music dies.

GWEN

Get her!

The four run for the closet, they all look in but can't find her.

GWEN (CONT'D)

She's gone.

NEW GUY

How?

В

She must've found the secret passage.

MARE

(laughs)

Secret passage... You know like a girl's, secret passage... Sorry, B, what were you saying about a... secret passage.

В

I invented one that leads to outside.

GWEN

Great so she could be anywhere.

В

Yeah, I'll follow her out the secret passage.

NEW GUY

I'll go out the window.

GWEN

I'll take the front door.

MARE

I'll stay here, I feel a little...

Mare passes out on couch.

В

You guys go, I'll make sure she's okay.

Gwen rushes out front door. New Guy grabs an umbrella and climbs out the window. B covers Mare with a blanket.

B (CONT'D)

I thought the secret passage thing was funny too.

As B exits into closet, Johnny reenters through the front door.

JOHNNY

Aha! I've found a clue that proves that Lybian nationalists are to blame... Mare!

Johnny rushes over to see if she's okay, and as he does Tiff climbs back in the window.

TIFF

It's a good thing they never close this window, even when it storms.

JOHNNY

Tiff!

TIFF

Johnny!

JOHNNY

Mare!

TIFF

Norm!

JOHNNY

(confused pause - Tiff

shrugs)

What did the Lybians do to Mare? What happened to her?

Does it matter? It's just the two of us again. Forget about her and the others.

JOHNNY

But I love Mare. I want Mare.

TIFF

Oh.

JOHNNY

Hey, look the storm stopped. I feel a lot more normal.

TIFF

Me too. Umm, Johnny, I kinda made some trouble...

JOHNNY

Never mind that, we have to wake Mare up.

(shakes Mare)
Mare, wakey, wakey!

MARE

(mumbling)

Fozzie, you're jokes are funny.

Waka, Waka, Waka!

(wakes up)

Tiff! We have to get her!

Mare makes a lunge for Tiff, Johnny holds Mare back.

JOHNNY

Mare, calm down.

MARE

No, she's been trying to get us out of the way, so she can keep you all to herself.

(New Guy climbs back in with umbrella)

Ask the New Guy!

NEW GUY

Get her!

The New Guy holds umbrella out like a shield.

GWEN

(reentering room from

closet)

There she is. We've caught her!

В

(reentering from closet)
Guys! I found a sandwich.

B starts to eat it.

Tiff and Johnny are standing on the couch surrounded by everyone.

JOHNNY

Did you really attack all of these guys?

TIFF

Yeah, sorry.

JOHNNY

She said sorry, is that enough?

GWEN & MARE & NEW GUY

No!

B

It's enough for me.

B keeps eating.

JOHNNY

Come on, guys, let's look at this. She just tied you up, Gwen, and that's not so different from a good weekend for you.

GWEN

That's true.

JOHNNY

And New Guy, all you really wanted was to hang out with us, and see what we're like. And well, this is pretty much a typical Thursday around here, so you're not that mad, right?

NEW GUY

You've got a point.

JOHNNY

And Mare, I choose you, even ridiculously drunk you.

MARE

Actually I feel fine now, I think that nap took care of me.

JOHNNY

So there you go! No harm, no foul.

MARE

No harm, no foul.

Johnny and Mare kiss.

JOHNNY

Then everyone's good, what say we get out of here and go to a Halloween party?

В

Sounds great!

JOHNNY

(to New Guy)

You wanna go?

NEW GUY

Sure, I'm in.

GWEN

I'm driving.

Gwen and New Guy exit.

JOHNNY

Cool.

(to Mare and B)

You guys ready?

В

Just let me put my proton pack on.

MARE

Yeah, I gotta put back on these heels.

JOHNNY

Alright.

(gives Mare a kiss)

See you at the car.

Johnny turns to Tiff and starts to walk out arm in arm with Tiff.

JOHNNY (CONT'D)

Alright, so tell me how's everybody back home?

Crazy. Ricky broke up with Laura, and she tried to hit him with her car, but instead she hit a tree and...

Johnny and Tiff exit laughing.

В

(to Mare)

He's so crazy about you.

MARE

Yeah, I guess, sometimes I'm not so sure.

В

What?

MARE

It's nothing, just the way he acts around other girls sometimes. Like Tiff or Gwen.

B

But there's also the way he acts around you. He'd do anything for you.

MARE

I know, you're right. I'm just being silly, I guess I'm still not totally over the wine. You ready?

В

I'll be there in just a second.

MARE

Cool.

Mare exits.

В

(turns and addresses the
audience)
 (MORE)

B (CONT'D)

Thus ends tonight's very special tale of woe and craziness, which proves that none of us are safe when we are forced to face the Forces of Nature, but it is nothing compared to the torture of having to face the movie Forces of Nature with Sandra Bullock and Sexiest Man Alive Ben Affleck, I would never wish that pain on anyone. Where was I? Aw, never mind, the point is you never truly know what lies in even the people closest to you... and you should drink beer, Lots of beer, LOTS and Lots of...

GWEN

(Poking her head in the door)

B, will you shut up and come on.

В

Right.

(to audience)

See ya.

(turns for the door, just before he leaves) LOTS of beer.

B exits.

Lights down.